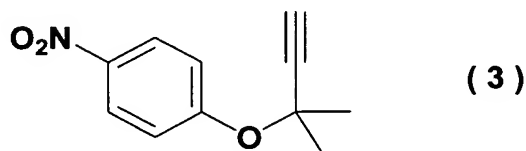


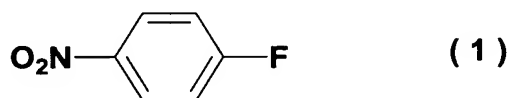
Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for producing an acetylene compound of formula (3)



characterized by reacting 4-nitrofluorobenzene of formula (1)



with an alkoxide of 2-methyl-3-butyn-2-ol of formula (2)



at -20 to 10°C.

2. (Original) The method for producing an acetylene compound according to claim 1, wherein an amide type solvent is used as a solvent.

3. (Currently Amended) The method for producing an acetylene compound according to claim 1-~~or~~ 2, wherein used amount of the solvent is 2 mass times or more that of 4-nitrofluorobenzene.

4. (New) The method for producing an acetylene compound according to claim 2, wherein used amount of the solvent is 2 mass times or more that of 4-nitrofluorobenzene.